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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/580,178	05/22/2006	Kaoru Yokota	2006_0680A	4029
52349 7590 06/25/2010 WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK L.L.P. 1030 15th Street, N.W. Suite 400 East Washington, DC 20005-1503				
EXAMINER				
ZUNIGA, JACKIE				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2458				
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
06/25/2010		ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/580,178

Applicant(s)

YOKOTA ET AL.

Examiner

JACKIE ZUNIGA

Art Unit

2458

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 March 2010.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10 and 13-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10 and 13-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 13 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 May 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-8, 10, 13-15 are presented for examination.
2. Claims 1, 14, and 15 are amended.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. As previously mentioned on the Non-Final Office action mailed on 12/18/2009, Claim 13 is allowed. The Examiner recommends incorporating allowable subject matter from claim 13 into claims 1, 14, and 15.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 03/18/2010 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The reasons set forth below.

The Applicant argues:

(1) Nakano fails to disclose or suggest that the index information output unit outputs only the converted index information to cause the display apparatus to display the index information converted by the video processing unit into a format displayable on the screen of the display apparatus, as recited in claim 1, [Remarks, pages 11-12].

The Examiner respectfully disagrees with these arguments.

As per the first argument,

Nakano discloses a reproduction apparatus that utilizes ID information for decrypting content. In Nakano's system a recording medium is loaded into the

reproduction apparatus, and based on the ID information previously stored in the reproduction apparatus, it analyzes the header information stored in the recording medium to specify the position of the encrypted media key to be decrypted and the device key to be used. Nakano's system utilizes only the ID information for accessing the device key that will be used for decrypting the media key; the reproduction apparatus will then decrypt the content with use of the obtained media key [fig. 9, paragraphs 0193, 0213-0216]. Nakano discloses generating key information and outputting the key information into a recording medium, and distributing to the user the recording medium on which the key information is recorded [paragraphs 0227-0229]. The recording medium in which the key information is recorded is loaded into the user apparatus, and the user apparatus will read the key information from the recording medium, and it will use this key information to specify the encrypted media key that is assigned to the user apparatus itself for encrypting or decrypting media content [paragraph 0230]. Nakano does not explicitly disclose displaying the index information.

However Takashima discloses the reproduction of content according to the selection of index information by the user [paragraph 0105]. Takashima discloses the index information being recognizable by the user and the correlations between the index information and the corresponding unit keys and he also discloses the differences in format between the original content and reproduction [fig. 5, 7, paragraphs 0042, 0138, 0160]. The index information is read from a recording medium in a reproduction apparatus as is being displayed by the output means (i.e., display monitor or speaker),

wherein this processing is executed on the basis of the user input through an input means connected to the processing apparatus [paragraphs 0456, 0457].

Claims 14 and 15 recite language similar to claim 1; therefore the arguments pertaining to claim 1 above also apply to claims 14 and 15.

As per dependent claims 2-8, and 10, Applicant has not made specific arguments pertaining to why the cited references do not teach the recited claims. Without such arguments, the Examiner cannot respond and is not persuaded by such argument.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

5. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 1-8, 10, 13, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claim 1 is directed to a content reproduction apparatus. The "apparatus" claim is not to a process, machine, manufacture or composition of matter. The claimed element's different "units" are considered non-structural limitations, since the specification is silent regarding the meaning of this term, and applying the broadest reasonable interpretation these elements can be software. Therefore, the claimed subject matter as a whole fails to fall within the definition of a process, machine, manufacture or composition of matter, patentable eligible category subject matter.

The dependent claims 2-8 and 10, inherit the same deficiency and therefore are rejected for the same reason.

Claim 13 is directed to a system containing the apparatus as disclosed on claim 1 and a server. The "system" claim is not to a process, machine, manufacture or composition of matter. The claimed element's different "units", in the apparatus and the server are considered non-structural limitations, since the specification is silent regarding the meaning of this term, and applying the broadest reasonable interpretation these elements can be software. Therefore, the claimed subject matter as a whole fails to fall within the definition of a process, machine, manufacture or composition of matter, patentable eligible category subject matter.

Claim 15 is drawn to a "computer-readable recording medium". The specification is silent regarding the meaning of this term. Thus, applying the broadest reasonable interpretation in light of the specification and taking into account the meaning of the words in their ordinary usage as they would be understood by one of ordinary skill in the art (MPEP §2111), the claim as a whole covers both transitory and non-transitory media. A transitory medium does not fall into any of the 4 categories of invention (process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter).

The claim may be amended by changing "computer-readable recording medium" to --non-transitory computer-readable recording medium--, thus excluding that portion of the scope covering transitory signals. The scope of the disclosure given the state-of-the-

art covers both transitory and non-transitory media, and this amendment would limit the claim to an eligible (non-transitory) embodiment.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. **Claims 1-8, 10, 14, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakano et al. (hereinafter Nakano), U.S. Publication No. 2003/0081792, as cited by applicant in IDS, in view of Takashima et al., (hereinafter Takashima), U.S. Publication No. 2006/0227973.**

8. **As per claim 1**, Nakano discloses a content reproduction apparatus which reproduces a digital content [fig. 1, paragraph 0002, 0005, digital work system 10, for performing reproduction of content], the content reproducing apparatus comprising

A secret information storage unit [fig. 1, key information storage unit 301] operable to store a device key corresponding to the content reproduction apparatus, and the device key being stored in the secret information storage unit such that the device key cannot be accessed from outside of the content reproduction apparatus [fig. 1, 8, 10, paragraphs 0009, 0026, 0191, 0195, 0227, key information storage unit 301 for

storing device key information, the device key may only be accessed by a user if purchased with a user apparatus];

A cryptographic processing unit operable to decrypt an encrypted digital content, corresponding to the digital content, the encrypted digital content being encrypted using the device key stored in the secret information storage unit [fig. 8, 10, paragraphs 0206-0211, encryption unit 304 receives media key information and reads content from the content storage unit, next the encryption unit 304, encrypts the read content with the use of the received media key];

An index information storage unit [fig. 8, key information storage unit 301] operable to store index information, the index information indicating the device key stored in the secret information storage unit such that the index information can be accessed from outside of the content reproduction apparatus [fig. 8, paragraphs 0193-0198, based on the ID information stored by the recording apparatus, the position of the encrypted media key and the device key that is to be used may be determined];

Nakano discloses an index information output unit operable to output, only the index information [fig. 2, 9, paragraph 0179, 0193, 0213-0216, based on the ID information in the reproduction apparatus 400a, analyze the header information stored in the recording medium 500c to specify the position of the encrypted media key to be decrypted and the device key to be used], but he does not explicitly disclose the index information output unit causing the display apparatus to display the index information converted by the video processing unit, the index information converted by the video

processing unit being output to the display apparatus based in the instruction received by the instruction receiving unit;

A video output unit operable to connect to a display apparatus that is distinct from the content reproduction apparatus;

An instruction receiving unit operable to receive, from outside of the content reproduction apparatus, an instruction for outputting the index information from the index information storage unit;

A video processing unit operable to convert the index information stored in the index information storage unit into a data format that is displayable on a screen of the display apparatus.

However Takashima discloses causing the display apparatus to display the index information converted by the video processing unit, the index information converted by the video processing unit being output to the display apparatus based in the instruction received by the instruction receiving unit [fig. 5, 7, 25, paragraphs 0042, 0105, 0138, 0160, 0295, converting data recorded on a recording medium and display it on a receiver device];

A video output unit operable to connect to a display apparatus that is distinct from the content reproduction apparatus [fig. 26, paragraph 0427, the reproduced content is transmitted from the information recording medium loaded on the recording and reproducing apparatus 711 to such a content reproducing device 714 having output means like a display monitor as a TV or a PC];

An instruction receiving unit operable to receive, from outside of the content reproduction apparatus, an instruction for outputting the index information from the index information storage unit [paragraphs 0105, 0437, 0457, the information processing apparatus selects content subject to reproduction from content stored in an information recording medium, this processing is executed on the basis of the user input through an input means connected to the information processing apparatus];

A video processing unit operable to convert the index information stored in the index information storage unit into a data format that is displayable on a screen of the display apparatus [fig. 5, 7, 24, paragraphs 0024, 0025, 0105, the title information and the index information are presentable to the user, the index is a content title that is presented onto a display, this index is recognizable by the user];

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to improve upon the apparatus described in Nakano by including means for displaying information based on instructions from a user as disclosed by Takashima because it would provide the Nakano's apparatus with the enhanced capability of securely distributing, to particular users, information necessary for content reproduction, providing user convenience and amenity on communication between devices inside a network [Takashima, paragraphs 0008-0013].

9. **As per claim 2**, Nakano discloses the content reproduction apparatus according to Claim 1,

Wherein the index information stored in the index information storage unit is encrypted according to a predetermined cryptographic method [fig. 2, paragraph 0009, 0026, 0176, 0178, key information generation unit 107 generates an encrypted media key];

Wherein the index information output unit includes:

A decryption unit operable to decrypt, based on the instruction, the encrypted index information stored in the index information storage unit according to the predetermined cryptographic method [paragraphs 0026, 0179, a decryption unit operable to generate a media key from an encrypted media key];

An output unit operable to output the index information decrypted by the decryption unit [fig. 8, paragraph 0204, decryption unit 302 outputs the generated decrypted media key].

However Takashima discloses a display apparatus [fig. 26, paragraph 0427, the reproduced content is transmitted from the information recording medium loaded on the recording and reproducing apparatus 711 to such a content reproducing device 714 having output means like a display monitor as a TV or a PC].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to improve upon the apparatus described in Nakano by including means for displaying information based on instructions from a user as disclosed by Takashima because it would provide the Nakano's apparatus with the enhanced capability of securely distributing, to particular users, information necessary for content

reproduction, providing user convenience and amenity on communication between devices inside a network [Takashima, paragraphs 0008-0013].

10. **As per claim 3**, Nakano discloses the content reproduction apparatus according to Claim 1,

Wherein the index information stored in the index information storage unit is encrypted according to a predetermined cryptographic method [fig. 2, paragraph 0009, 0026, 0176, 0178, key information generation unit 107 generates an encrypted media key];

Wherein the index information output unit outputs, based on the instruction, the encrypted index information stored in the index information storage unit [fig. 2, paragraph 0179, key information generation unit 107 outputs the generated encrypted media key].

Nakano discloses a device key assignment unit 103 for outputting device keys and ID information to each user apparatus [paragraphs 0051, 0127], but he does not explicitly disclose a display apparatus.

However Takashima discloses a display apparatus [fig. 26, paragraph 0427, the reproduced content is transmitted from the information recording medium loaded on the recording and reproducing apparatus 711 to such a content reproducing device 714 having output means like a display monitor as a TV or a PC].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to improve upon the apparatus described in Nakano by including

means for displaying information based on instructions from a user as disclosed by Takashima because it would provide the Nakano's apparatus with the enhanced capability of securely distributing, to particular users, information necessary for content reproduction, providing user convenience and amenity on communication between devices inside a network [Takashima, paragraphs 0008-0013].

11. **As per claim 4**, Nakano discloses the content reproduction apparatus according to Claim 1, but he does not explicitly disclose:

An authentication data storage unit operable to store authentication data that is obtained by performing a predetermined conversion on the index information.

However Takashima discloses:

An authentication data storage unit operable to hold authentication data that is obtained by performing a predetermined conversion on the index information [fig. 34, paragraphs 0049, 0050, 0302, 0497, 0498, an authentication processing section for executing authentication processing].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to improve upon the apparatus described in Nakano by including an authentication mechanism as disclosed by Takashima because it would provide the Nakano's apparatus with the enhanced capability of securely distributing, to particular users, information necessary for content reproduction, preventing any unauthorized duplication of content [Takashima, paragraphs 0003, 0008-0013].

12. **As per claim 5**, Nakano discloses the content reproduction apparatus according to Claim 1,

Wherein the index information output unit outputs the index information stored in the index information storage unit [fig. 2, paragraph 0179, key information generation unit 107 outputs the generated encrypted media key].

Nakano discloses a device key assignment unit 103 for outputting device keys and ID information to each user apparatus [paragraphs 0051, 0127], but he does not explicitly disclose a display apparatus.

However Takashima discloses a display apparatus [fig. 26, paragraph 0427, the reproduced content is transmitted from the information recording medium loaded on the recording and reproducing apparatus 711 to such a content reproducing device 714 having output means like a display monitor as a TV or a PC].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to improve upon the apparatus described in Nakano by including means for displaying information based on instructions from a user as disclosed by Takashima because it would provide the Nakano's apparatus with the enhanced capability of securely distributing, to particular users, information necessary for content reproduction, providing user convenience and amenity on communication between devices inside a network [Takashima, paragraphs 0008-0013].

13. **As per claim 6**, Nakano discloses the content reproduction apparatus according to Claim 5,

Wherein on the recording medium, a unique identification number is recorded [paragraph 0009, organization assigns recording apparatus with a device key identification number];

Wherein the instruction receiving unit reads the program and the identification number from the removable recording medium on which the program is recorded [paragraphs 0009, 0025, 0099, 0595, recording medium is loaded and the apparatus extracts encrypted media key corresponding to the key identification number, and the key management program recorded to assist the key management apparatus achieve its function];

Wherein the index information output unit outputs, the index information stored in the index information storage unit, the index information being output by executing the read program only when the identification number satisfies a predetermined condition [paragraph 0009, apparatus will extract the encrypted media key corresponding to the identification number assigned to the apparatus].

Nakano discloses a device key assignment unit 103 for outputting device keys and ID information to each user apparatus [paragraphs 0051, 0127], but he does not explicitly disclose a display apparatus.

However Takashima discloses a display apparatus [fig. 26, paragraph 0427, the reproduced content is transmitted from the information recording medium loaded on the recording and reproducing apparatus 711 to such a content reproducing device 714 having output means like a display monitor as a TV or a PC].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to improve upon the apparatus described in Nakano by including means for displaying information based on instructions from a user as disclosed by Takashima because it would provide the Nakano's apparatus with the enhanced capability of securely distributing, to particular users, information necessary for content reproduction, providing user convenience and amenity on communication between devices inside a network [Takashima, paragraphs 0008-0013].

14. **As per claim 7**, Nakano discloses the content reproduction apparatus according to Claim 1, but he does not explicitly disclose:

Wherein the instruction receiving unit is operable to receive the instruction from a communication terminal via a computer network;

However Takashima discloses:

Wherein the instruction receiving unit is operable to receive the instruction from a communication terminal via a computer network [paragraphs 0105, 0437, 0457, the information processing apparatus selects content subject to reproduction from content stored in an information recording medium, this processing is executed on the basis of the user input through an input means connected to the information processing apparatus].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to improve upon the apparatus described in Nakano by including means for displaying information based on instructions from a user as disclosed by

Takashima because it would provide the Nakano's apparatus with the enhanced capability of securely distributing, to particular users, information necessary for content reproduction, providing user convenience and amenity on communication between devices inside a network [Takashima, paragraphs 0008-0013].

15. **As per claim 8**, Nakano discloses the content reproduction apparatus according to Claim 1, but he does not explicitly disclose:

Wherein the instruction receiving unit is operable to receive the instruction from a debug apparatus connected to the content reproduction apparatus.

However Nakano discloses a need for a system that will efficiently determine key assignment for the user apparatus for the content reproduction [paragraphs 0024, 0025, 0026].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to assume that efficiency may include utilizing a debug terminal to avoid any errors; hence an ordinary skilled artisan would find using a debug terminal obvious.

16. **As per claim 10**, Nakano discloses the content reproduction apparatus according to Claim 1,

Wherein the index information stored in the index information storage unit is encrypted according to a predetermined cryptographic method [paragraph 0009, 0026,

0176, 0178, apparatus encrypts media keys using device keys to generate encrypted media keys];

Nakano does not explicitly disclose wherein the display apparatus displays the encrypted index information.

However Takashima discloses:

Wherein the display apparatus displays the encrypted index information [fig. 5, 7, 24, paragraphs 0024, 0025, 0105, 0152, the title information and the index information are presentable to the user, the index is a content title that is presented onto a display, this index is recognizable by the user].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to improve upon the apparatus described in Nakano by including means for displaying information based on instructions from a user as disclosed by Takashima because it would provide the Nakano's apparatus with the enhanced capability of securely distributing, to particular users, information necessary for content reproduction, providing user convenience and amenity on communication between devices inside a network [Takashima, paragraphs 0008-0013].

17. **As per claim 14**, Nakano discloses a method for controlling a content reproduction apparatus [fig. 1, paragraph 0002, 0005, 0025, digital work system 10, for performing reproduction of content], the content reproduction apparatus storing a device key that corresponds to the content reproduction apparatus, the device key being stored in the content reproduction apparatus such that the device key cannot be accessed

from outside of the content reproduction apparatus [fig. 1, 8, 10, paragraphs 0009, 0026, 0191, 0195, 0227, key information storage unit 301 for storing device key information, the device key may only be accessed by a user if purchased with a user apparatus], the content reproduction apparatus decrypting an encrypted digital content using the stored device key to reproduce a digital content, the content reproduction apparatus storing index information that indicates the stored device key [fig. 8, 10, paragraphs 0206-0211, encryption unit 304 receives media key information and reads content from the content storage unit, next the encryption unit 304, encrypts the read content with the use of the received media key], and the index information being stored in the content reproduction apparatus such that the index information can be accessed from outside of the content reproduction apparatus [fig. 8, paragraphs 0193-0198, based on the ID information stored by the recording apparatus, the position of the encrypted media key and the device key that is to be used may be determined], the method comprising:

Nakano discloses outputting only the converted index information [fig. 2, 9, paragraph 0179, 0193, 0213-0216, based on the ID information in the reproduction apparatus 400a, analyze the header information stored in the recording medium 500c to specify the position of the encrypted media key to be decrypted and the device key to be used], but he does not explicitly disclose causing the display apparatus to display the index information converted by the video processing unit.

Receiving, from outside of the content reproduction apparatus, an instruction for outputting the index information from an index information storage unit of the content reproduction apparatus;

Converting the stored index information into a data format that is displayable on a screen of the display apparatus, the stored index information being converted based on the received instruction.

However Takashima discloses causing the display apparatus to display the index information converted by the video processing unit [fig. 25, 26, paragraph 0295, 0427, converting data recorded on a recording medium and display it on a receiver device];

Receiving, from outside of the content reproduction apparatus, an instruction for outputting the index information from an index information storage unit of the content reproduction apparatus [paragraphs 0105, 0437, 0457, the information processing apparatus selects content subject to reproduction from content stored in an information recording medium, this processing is executed on the basis of the user input through an input means connected to the information processing apparatus];

Converting the stored index information into a data format that is displayable on a screen of the display apparatus, the stored index information being converted based on the received instruction [fig. 5, 7, 24, paragraphs 0024, 0025, 0105, the title information and the index information are presentable to the user, the index is a content title that is presented onto a display, this index is recognizable by the user].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to improve upon the apparatus described in Nakano by including means for displaying information based on instructions from a user as disclosed by Takashima because it would provide the Nakano's apparatus with the enhanced capability of securely distributing, to particular users, information necessary for content reproduction, providing user convenience and amenity on communication between devices inside a network [Takashima, paragraphs 0008-0013].

18. **As per claim 15**, Nakano discloses a computer-readable recording medium having a program recorded thereon, the program being used in a content reproduction apparatus [fig. 1, paragraph 0002, 0005, 0025, digital work system 10, for performing reproduction of content], the content reproduction apparatus storing a device key that corresponds to the content reproduction apparatus, the device key being stored in the content reproduction apparatus such that the device key cannot be accessed from outside of the content reproduction apparatus [fig. 1, 8, 10, paragraphs 0009, 0026, 0191, 0195, 0227, key information storage unit 301 for storing device key information, the device key may only be accessed by a user if purchased with a user apparatus], the content reproduction apparatus decrypting an encrypted digital content using the stored device key to reproduce a digital content, the content reproduction apparatus storing index information that indicates the stored device key [fig. 8, 10, paragraphs 0206-0211, encryption unit 304 receives media key information and reads content from the content storage unit, next the encryption unit 304, encrypts the read content with the use of the

received media key], and the index information being stored in the content reproduction apparatus such that the index information can be accessed from outside of the content reproduction apparatus [fig. 8, paragraphs 0193-0198, based on the ID information stored by the recording apparatus, the position of the encrypted media key and the device key that is to be used may be determined], and the program causing the content reproduction apparatus to execute a method comprising

Nakano discloses outputting only the converted index information [fig. 2, 9, paragraph 0179, 0193, 0213-0216, based on the ID information in the reproduction apparatus 400a, analyze the header information stored in the recording medium 500c to specify the position of the encrypted media key to be decrypted and the device key to be used], but he does not explicitly disclose causing the display apparatus to display the index information converted by the video processing unit.

Receiving, from outside of the content reproduction apparatus, an instruction for outputting the index information from an index information storage unit of the content reproduction apparatus;

Converting the stored index information into a data format that is displayable on a screen of the display apparatus, the stored index information being converted based on the received instruction; and

However Takashima discloses causing the display apparatus to display the index information converted by the video processing unit [fig. 25, 26, paragraph 0295, 0427, converting data recorded on a recording medium and display it on a receiver device];

Receiving, from outside of the content reproduction apparatus, an instruction for outputting the index information from an index information storage unit of the content reproduction apparatus [paragraphs 0105, 0437, 0457, the information processing apparatus selects content subject to reproduction from content stored in an information recording medium, this processing is executed on the basis of the user input through an input means connected to the information processing apparatus];

Converting the stored index information into a data format that is displayable on a screen of the display apparatus, the stored index information being converted based on the received instruction [fig. 5, 7, 24, paragraphs 0024, 0025, 0105, the title information and the index information are presentable to the user, the index is a content title that is presented onto a display, this index is recognizable by the user].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to improve upon the apparatus described in Nakano by including means for displaying information based on instructions from a user as disclosed by Takashima because it would provide the Nakano's apparatus with the enhanced capability of securely distributing, to particular users, information necessary for content reproduction, providing user convenience and amenity on communication between devices inside a network [Takashima, paragraphs 0008-0013].

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JACKIE ZUNIGA whose telephone number is (571)270-

7194. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7:30 A.M to 5:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Avellino can be reached on (571)272-3905. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/J.Z./
Examiner, Art Unit 2458

/J Bret Dennison/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2443